

Pikes Peak Edition



of the Denver Catholic Register



Collette Divine and Bonnie Fitzpatrick praying for a Saint Patrick's Parish on land they donated to the Church.

Celebrating New Parish

Bonnie Fitzpatrick and Collette Divine don't want to just celebrate St. Patrick's day. They want to celebrate St. Patrick's Parish.

This past spring, Bonnie donated five acres of prime land off Academy Boulevard, a few blocks from her log cabin home in the Dublin section of Colorado Springs, to the Archdiocese of Denver for a new parish.

Dream

It has been her dream for years to have the parish named after her Irish namesake, St. Patrick. With a current survey for interest in the new Parish going on at Holy Trinity Parish along with a census, she may soon have an answer to that prayer. (See related story on page B7).

"It is my prayer every day that these old Irish eyes will see a St. Patrick's on that land," she said. Bonnie gave the archdiocese the choicest five acres of land of her original 1000 acre ranch.

Forty years ago, she couldn't borrow \$4,000 to fix up her property. She now is giving the church a parcel of that original 1000 acres worth more than a half million dollars.

Bonnie and Collette have been business partners and "family" for more than 20 years. They ran the Dublin

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Tomato Soup, Grilled Cheese

The first experience of poverty for five-year-old Sarah was having to do without dessert. The dinner of tomato soup and grilled cheese sandwich was good.

Being limited to one helping had more immediate effect on Sarah's older sister, Debrah. They both missed the everyday extras like milk, however.

Hungry

It was not until just before bedtime that the hunger pains hit. "Mommy, I'm hungry," said Sarah.

"A lot of poor people go to bed hungry, Sarah," explained Sandra Engs, her mother.

"I don't care about poor people," admitted Sarah. "I'm hungry."

"I know Sarah, but that is why we are doing the Rice Bowl," said Mom. "So we can understand what the poor people feel like when they go to bed hungry."

John Engs' family are members of Holy Family Parish in Security. This is their first year participating in the Rice Bowl Operation.

Without

"We both work," said John Engs. "Our children seldom have to do without

anything."

"The neighborhood we live in has no poor," pointed out his wife. "It doesn't even have any elderly people. Our children are very sheltered."

So, the Engs have been following the suggestions on the Rice Bowl.

"Fixing pancakes for dinner isn't bad," said Mrs. Engs. "Going without the sausage and juice makes the difference."

Thanks

After each meal, the family gathers around the Rice Bowl to give thanks for what they do have and to pray for those who go without.

Each child is given the money saved by doing without the extras to put into the bowl. The money will be collected on Palm Sunday, March 30.

"We are told that a procession may be held for the Rice Bowl collection," said Mrs. Engs. "I hope so because this is different than the normal collection. Because of the children's experiences it should be special."

Eight-year-old Debrah admits, "The dinners have been good, but I wouldn't want it to always be this way."



John, Debrah, Sandra and Sarah Engs share their experiences in Operation Rice Bowl this Lenten Season



The Olsen family, an example in raising children.

Celebrating New Parish

Continued from P. 1A

House, now the state Correctional Center, for 15 years less than 100 yards from their log cabin.

The Dublin House was claimed the finest restaurant west of the Mississippi by the Washington Post in the 1960's, named after Bonnie's father's hometown in Ireland.

Collette, a big band era singer and opera tour performer, sang with her own band at the Dublin House for years, before they quit the business a little over two years ago.

"We have done a program every St. Patrick's Day for more than 35 years," said Collette. "This will be the first year we won't be doing something."

Both Bonnie and Collette will be watching Bonnie's granddaughter, Sonja, do an Irish jig in a recital at Holy Trinity elementary instead.

In years past, they used to put on everything from an authentic Irish wake to raffling off a live green pig.

Bonnie's Irish pride has been contagious in her dealing with selling off the land in the Dublin area that used to be her Melody Springs ranch.

The subdivisions around her now all carry Irish names, like Aerindale Heights, Dublin Acres, and the Berkshire Apartments. They are all built on her old cow pastures and corn crop land.

Parents' Love Best for Children

Perhaps the best thing that parents can do for their children is to love one another, said Dr. Marty Olsen, a Colorado Springs psychologist.

Olsen and his wife, Betty, recently gave a workshop at Divine Redeemer Parish on "Raising Children and Surviving."

According to the Olsens, spirituality is best passed on to children by having a deep spiritual life as an adult. Their philosophy is that children should not be made to do something that a parent wants over the child's individuality.

Values

"By making yourselves more loving and compatible, you can be better parents," said Dr. Olsen. "We model our values better than we teach them."

The Olsens' credentials include preparing the current pre-cana program used in Colorado Springs. It was eventually published by Paulist Press.

Mrs. Olsen is the president of the El Paso County Mental Health Association. She has a background in teaching communication on the college level.

"The present awareness of being a better parent has many people guilty about raising children," she said.

"We are almost given the impression by all the new how-to books on parenting that we can turn out perfect little people from our children if only we do the right things."

Neglecting

Mrs. Olsen thinks that con-

cept harms effective parenting by neglecting the individuality and personality of the child.

Research shows that children have almost as much effect on their parent's behavior as parents do on their children," she explained.

"A more legitimate concept is to see your children as guests," she added, coining a term used by Henri Nouwen, a Catholic author.

Responsibility

Children should be enjoyed as a responsibility, rather than a charge, she said.

"We should relax, realizing that our anxiety with children's behavior is more harmful than our acceptance of it."

Anxiety is a fear of the unknown. By becoming educated about the problems that children face and then sharing them with them, you remove the anxiety," she said.

She added that the problems will still be encountered but the child will know he has a relationship

with his parents that is mature. The child then can meet problems of growing up with confidence.

"That is really as much as an adult can do," she said.

"No one owns their children," added Dr. Olsen.

The Olsens have two children of their own, and do not profess having the answers to raising them. But, little Kirstin, their two-year-old daughter, recently handled an argument with her brother Eric, 5, all by herself.

Love

"I love you," she said to Eric. "But now I am mad at you."

"The words she used made us feel very good about how we model to our children," said Dr. Olsen. "She did not blame him for anything, but owned her own anger, and they settled their difference quickly."

By reacting as husband and wife in a manner that operates on an intimate and loving level, the Olsens believe parents can strongly affect and help to form a child's behavior.

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What Could They Possibly Give Up?

It is hard to imagine a Catholic family finding anything to "give up" for Lent when they have been through what the Dang family went through just to stay alive in 1975, but they will surely think of something.

The Dang family is a devout Vietnamese refugee family of 10 children that came to the United States and St. Paul's parish four years ago.

They suffered incredible hardships, grief and oppression just to get a boat out of the country. But after four years of support, love and care from the St. Paul's Parish, the Dang's have progressed quickly.

"They accept whatever comes," said Pierre de Puthod, the primary sponsor for the Dang's.

"They know how to live. They are not vengeful," he said. "I would be mad as hell after what they went through, but they just go on."

Trust

Pierre said the family has an extreme trust in God, perhaps the only reason they are all still together today. For instance, in Ft. Smith, Ark. while waiting to be processed, they were assigned to a St. Paul's Episcopal Parish.

The father, Tuong Van Dang, refused to go to any sponsor but a Catholic parish. The officials said the family would be split up and that he was foolish not to take the first chance out.

Tuong said he put his faith in God to take care of them, and the sponsorship from the Colorado Springs St. Paul's came shortly.

Firm

"He was firm that something was going to happen for them and he was right," said Pierre.

Grade School Sends Balloons

What goes up must come down, and the students at Holy Trinity Elementary School hope they come back too.

Last month, over 90 balloons with cards attached were released from the Holy Trinity school playground. The cards asked the finders of the balloons to return the postcards.

"It was very exciting," said Carole Hiebert, reading teacher and coordinator of the balloon lift with 6th grade teacher, Margaret

Hedemark. The two teachers organized the balloon project as a promotion for reading. Upper grade students were matched with lower grades to tie their favorite book titles, listed on the cards, to the balloons.

"We hoped some would come back, but we had no idea," said Hedemark.

Almost 20 have been returned so far. One came from as far as the Kansas border from a town called Bethune

The family has learned English quickly, with Tan, a senior now at St. Mary's High School, listed as a straight A student.

Tan said he wants to go to medical school to return to Vietnam as a doctor. He originally wanted to be a priest, and was in a seminary in Vietnam four years ago.

But, he knows he cannot return to Vietnam as a priest. They would not let him in. They would welcome a doctor, though.

Nurse

"Tam, his sister, wants to go back as a nurse," said Pierre.

The parish took on the project without any hopes of return. They even bought a duplex to rent cheaply to the family. One parishioner gave a car, and many others gave more than enough furniture and house items.

"They have jobs now, and are taking very good care of themselves," said Pierre.

The pain and strain of the oppression will be with the family always, however.

Scared

"They are still unsettled, scared," said Pierre. "They still have nightmares, and worry anxiously about their relatives in Vietnam."

The little news they do get from their homeland is very bad, without hope for a change in the future.

Pierre was a victim of the World War II occupation of France. He said he understands the oppression of the Vietnamese, but could never understand the hopelessness.

"In France, we knew we would be free again. In Vietnam, the situation is not good for the future. That must be very painful," he said.

Church Men Plan Irish Stew

An Irish Stew will begin the celebration of St. Patrick's Day at Holy Trinity. The get-together will be sponsored by the Men's Club and be held in the community center. A social hour from 6 to 7 p.m. will feature green beer. After dinner entertainment and dancing to Irish Music will continue til the wee hours of the morning. Irish Coffee is also on the program.

Tickets are \$4 per person and are on sale after all Masses.



The Tuong Van Dang family, in the United States now for four years.

Marians Spread Joy

They go wherever they are asked and spend the whole time singing about how happy they are.

They are called the Merry Marians, a group of 12 eager, dedicated and practiced singers, bringing song and fun to nursing homes, malls and even banks.

The group is made up of elderly members of the Marian House, sponsored by St. Mary's Parish.

"We are real good," joked Lucille Sullivan, before the group broke into their opening number "You Can Smile."

The Merry Marians always start a concert with "You Can Smile" and end with "Let There Be Peace On Earth."

The current repertoire is about 15 St. Patrick Day songs. They include "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" and "I'm Looking Over A Four Leaf Clover."



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This Catholic Never Heard of St. Patrick

A Catholic that has never heard of St. Patrick? Glory Be!

Sonia Calderon has good reason. She is a student from Barranquilla, Colombia, living with Will and Mary Ann Gamez of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Manitou Springs.

Calderon graduated from a Catholic high school in

Colombia last year, but is now attending Manitou Springs High School to learn English. The Gamez family chose Calderon from a group of over 50 students because she was Catholic.

Differences between an American Catholic and a South American Catholic exist, but according to Calderon they are limited to

the ways the faith is expressed.

Stay Home

During Holy Week, for example, everyone stays home from work and school from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday.

"We don't eat meat that week, just fish," she said.

Instead of giving up candy for Lent, neighbors and friends exchange homemade candies. "People also go to church daily. They return home with their families and talk about God," Calderon said. It is a time of rest and meditation.

On Good Friday, the extended families go to church together and recite prayers at the various statues.

"Everyone is there from tiny babies to grandparents," she said.

One custom, she admits is copied from the United States, is the Christmas tree. However, on Dec. 1, each family makes a pesebre. This is the mountain cave in which Jesus was born.

From the 15th of the month to Christmas Eve, the family gathers nightly around the scene to pray and sing songs.

"Each pesebre is different. The family uses its imagination," Calderon said. "The Christ child is placed in the manger the last night of the Novena, Dec. 24th."

Surprise

The recent celebration of

Valentine's Day caught Calderon by surprise. A "Love Day" in Colombia has been extended to "Love and Friendship Day" to include more than boyfriends and girlfriends, she said.

"We spend the week before Love and Friendship Day making cards to send," said Calderon.

She really enjoyed the flowers and two boxes of chocolates she received for Valentines.

The seven sacraments remain the same south of the equator, but changes in



Sonia Calderon

ministering them have a different time table. Communion is still received in the mouth and Holy Thursday is the only time the host is dipped in wine.

Baptism

Baptism now takes place

with the parents at the clinic," said Calderon. "Five years ago the baby was baptized at five months with big parties first for the babies, then for the adults."

Weddings run true to form. A white dress is worn, but the father blesses the marriage rather than merely giving the daughter away.

"The average age for a girl to wed is 18. The boy is usually 23," said Calderon. "There are not a lot of divorces with Catholic marriages in Colombia. It is simply not legal. Separations, however, are possible, according to Calderon."

Burial

On the eighth day following a death, a burial mass is held in the home.

"Newspapers announce the Mass and everyone is invited," she said. "Coffee is served after the Mass and a thank-you is published in the papers on the following day."

First Communion is usually received in the second grade. The Confirmation Rite is administered every two years when the cardinal comes to town. Children are usually 10 to 12 years old and do not take another name, Calderon said.

The majority of the people are Catholic, said Calderon. And most attend Catholic school. Schools vary in cost and children go to the school their parents can afford, she said.

Prayers

Her parents taught her how to pray the Our Father, Hail Mary and Act of Contrition at night before bed.

The rosary is recited before school every morning during the month of May," she pointed out.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary begins Dec. 8 at 3 a.m.


"Everyone puts candles in bags of sand out on their front porches," said Calderon. "We stay up until

the candles burn out."

The Virgin of Carmen holds the place St. Christopher once did as protector. The feasts of Sts. Peter and Paul are celebrated in July with sales of sugar animals in the parks.

The mass is one ritual that remains consistent for this Catholic away from home.


"Mass is the same, but usually only lasts a half an hour in Colombia," she said. "The priests there don't talk as much."



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Students Learn About Marriage

Marriage may be a very natural step for young women to make in life, but the seniors at Benet Hill Academy prepare very seriously for any relationship decision.

In a course taught by Benedictine Sister Rose Ann Barman, every senior is taken through a carefully outlined course of human interaction, called The Art of Relating.

Sister Rose Ann feels that her course has been successful. She has statistics to back her feelings. During the past two years she has been teaching the class, only one student has married while at the high school.

"I think the class challenges the girls to think very hard about marriage, and any close relationship for that matter," said Sister.

The students have commented to her that they now understand that marriage is not the fantasy life portrayed on television, but a serious and complex interaction that takes hard work.

"We had one very power

ful experience at a liturgy last year," Sister explained. "One of the girls stood up and told the class that she and her engaged boyfriend had decided not to live together before they were to be married, because of the class."


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The 'Noises' Were Joyful

"Joyful Noises" were heard coming from Holy Apostles Church as liturgical folk groups from the Pike's Peak Region gathered together Feb. 24. The afternoon was the brain child of Kitty Brilliant, founder of Holy Apostles' folk groups.

"I got the idea of all the different groups coming together a few months ago," said Brilliant. "Father MacInerney was extremely supportive."

Nine

Nine parishes were represented with Holy Family and Holy Apostles sending two groups each. Observers were welcome and members of Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Guadalupe were present.

The time was divided into blocks of musical exchange and a mini-workshop.

"Our purpose was to establish a community among the folk groups," said Brilliant. "To meet each other and discover music."

"I think everyone who attended was spurred on by other groups," said Dan Brink of St. Mary's. "The different music presented brought about a new awareness of folk music in liturgy."

"Music in Liturgy" was the topic addressed by guest speaker, Benedictine Sister

Ann Stedman, of Benet Hill. She directed her comments on music to the internal nature of the spirit of Lenten worship.

Priming

"Guitar music provides an intimacy that the pomp of the organ cannot achieve," said Brink. "Sister also pointed out techniques like priming the people for Holy Week by using the music during Lent for

meditations

As host parish, Holy Apostles opened the session with the song "Bringing Joy" Father MacInerney lead the groups in prayer.

Ellen Kelso made a beautiful banner and the men in our Saturday music group engineered the sound system to each groups' needs," said Brilliant.

Slides

The group from Our Lady

of the Pines included a slide show in their rendering of the song "God Is A Surprise" by Carey Landry.

Three-part harmony was sung by the Stable sisters from Holy Family. Original compositions were sung by the Saturday choir from Holy Apostles.

Besides singing, each group filled out a questionnaire about their groups' make-up and possible needs.

Youth Activities

Air Force Academy — Father Herbert Lattis, 472-3300; March 16, Senior High Program, 2-6 p.m., Mass and supper; April 13, Senior High Program, 2-6 p.m., Mass and supper.

Corpus Christi — Audrey DeGeorge, 598-8577; March 17, Open Gym; March 30, Mass and Teen Scene.

Divine Redeemer — Bob Doerfler, 633-9092; March 30, Passover Meal, 6 p.m., Community Center; Contact Bob now for "Deeper Retreat Weekend".

Holy Apostles — Senior Georgeann Quinlan, 597-4249; March 16, Singles Brunch; March 21, Junior

High Skating; March 23, Parish Pancake Breakfast, 7-12 a.m.; March 23, Singles vs St. Mary's Singles in volleyball, 6-30 p.m.; March 28-30, Senior High Weekend Retreat.

Holy Family John Zay, 392-3006; Every Sunday Evening, "Christian Understanding of Sexuality", Parish Hall, 7-9 p.m.

Holy Trinity — Senior Kathy Warren, 471-3583; March 15, 16, Retreat at Emerald Valley.

Our Lady of the Pines — Sandy Culbertson, 593-8616; March 16, Pancake Breakfast Bake Sale; Every Sunday night, meetings, 7 p.m.

St. Mary's — Steve Mantz, 473-4633; March 16, Super Supper Show, 6 to 8 p.m., \$5; March 27, 28, Senior High Overnight Experience; March 29, 30, Steve Musseau "Increasing Human Effectiveness" Workshop.

St. Paul's — Jo Pregel, 471-9700; March 16, Hosting coffee and donuts; March 18, Sharing Group; April 1, Seder Meal.

St. Peter's, Monument — Bob and Mary Sheble, 481-3951; Carol Owen, 481-2720; Paul and Lucille Wargo, 481-3750; March 15, Senior High Raffle; Watch for the Ski Trip plans; Senior High meeting, every second Thursday; Junior High bowling at AFA.



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Open to the Holy Spirit

Jesus did not do a thing on this earth. His father did because Jesus was open to the Holy Spirit," said Tom Foster, one of the team of the New Jerusalem Prayer Community.

Foster, along with more than 300 other people, call themselves "charismatics," open to the spirit of the Father, in the name of Jesus.

"The Catholic church is a charismatic church," said Foster. "So, there is really nothing unique about our community. We are open to whatever the Spirit calls us to."

Openness

Herman Bachicha and Dick Matlock are also part of the team which leads the New Jerusalem community and they take their openness to the Spirit very seriously.

"We try to meet people as Christ, through all our senses," said Matlock. "We look at other people as Christ also. Our action, then, introduces people to Jesus who introduces them to the Father. It's a very exciting experience."

The experience of the Catholic charismatic at the

New Jerusalem community is extremely honest and loving. The team exemplifies the intent of the group to be open to the Holy Spirit in their daily lives.

"Our most important objective as leaders," said Bachicha, "is to make people see the Lord as loving. We must do that by loving the people we meet."

Growing

The prayer community has been meeting more than four years at Divine Redeemer Parish once a week. Starting from a small handful of six, they have grown to a steady 150 at each meeting.

Bishop Richard Hanifen, Vicar of the Southern Area, has given the prayer group his blessing, and has included one of the members as a representative on the vicariate council.

"There has to be a sense of belonging in the Church," said Bachicha. "When I first became a part of the prayer community, I finally realized that I was a part of the body of Christ. I was able to start living the word."

Spontaneous

Greeting newcomers to the prayer community has now become a vital part of the community's meeting ministry. Unfortunately, some people, visiting the group for the first time would be turned off by the spontaneous prayer manner of the community.

Now we set aside a time to explain to newcomers what our prayer group is about," said Matlock.

He said they even explain what the raised hands and speaking in tongues are all about.

"I believe that our loud vocal praise of the Father is a natural occurrence," said Foster. "We are merely expressing the joy of Jesus in our lives. We can't help but sing to him and praise him for all he is doing in our world."

Heartfelt

The outward expression of the New Jerusalem community is a heartfelt joy. However, some people have claimed that the community almost seems cliqueish because of their unique looking actions of prayer.

"We are definitely not a clique," said Foster. "We reach out to our brothers and sisters with welcome arms. But we are not just welcoming them to our group. It is a welcome to the body of Christ."

The ministry of the New Jerusalem community is a special one to Catholics. Even though some of the members are not Catholics, the team is called to a Catholic ministry.

Depth

Many Catholics get disenfranchised from the structured church," said Matlock. "We provide a depth for them, going beyond the problem of practiced prayers and into a living Jesus."

Rather than put down the Church and its tradition, however, the team is very supportive of the Church and its gift of saints, the liturgy, and the clergy.

Seven priests are now closely associated with the prayer community, assisting them with their monthly liturgy and providing help to Parishes when they are needed.



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Census More Than Counting

You don't have to stand up and be counted at Holy Trinity Parish. Two-hundred volunteers will be coming to every home in the parish boundaries over the next two weekends to do the counting as people sit in their living rooms.

In a highly organized campaign of evangelization and census, Holy Trinity Parish is actually going to knock on every door in their neighborhood.

20,000 doors

That comes to 20,000 front doors. The volunteers will be going to homes, whether they are Catholic or not, trying to seek out Catholics and any other interested people throughout the northern section of Colorado Springs.

"We are making a purely charitable, friendly approach," said Colleen Schaefer, chairperson of the door-knocking committee along with her husband Nick.

"We aren't going to be preying for fallen away Catholics, but will ask for the Catholics at each house. It is really an invitation census," she explained.

The census idea will also be taking a poll of Catholics who would be interested in a new parish in the Dublin

area of Colorado Springs

Donated

Collette Divine and Bonnie Fitzpatrick, recently donated some land to the archdiocese to build a parish called St. Patrick's, in the Dublin section of town.

Because of the growth in that part of Holy Trinity Parish, the census will be searching for member interest in a new parish.

"The archbishop wants to know if the people want a parish," said Schaefer.

She feels that many of the Holy Trinity members who drive the long distance from the area would be interested.

The massive outreach resembles very little that the parish has ever done before. The Schaefer's have plotted maps, scheduled volunteers in four hour slots and identified 20 team captains.

10 Pairs

"Each team will be made up of 10 pairs of census takers," explained Colleen Schaefer. "Before each four hour block, we will meet for a liturgy. Following the work, we'll have a social gathering with refreshments and reports turned in."

Invitations to the parish will be left at each home, outlining the programs available at the parish and requesting interested people to contact the pastor, Father Michael Walsh.

"This census is not just for statistics," said Mrs. Schaefer. "We see this as a definite apostolic mission and a service to our neighborhood."

Party Slated

A St. Patrick's Dessert and Card Party will be hosted by Saint Paul's Guild on Saturday, March 15, in Pauline Memorial School, 1601 Mesa Ave., at 1 p.m. Cost is \$1.75 per person with reservations by calling 633-1316.

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NCUA



St. Mary's basketball team goes to the state playoffs against Centuria on March 14. Coach Joseph Moroski calls them the most competitive group he has ever worked with.

Many of the girls are also honor students. This will be their fourth year in a row in the playoffs. Diane Huber is the leading scorer in the state for all girls leagues.

Security Church to Hold Fashion Show by CDA

The Catholic Daughters of America will present a fashion show March 14 at Holy Family school hall, 565

Marquette Drive, Security, at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$2.50 and can be purchased at the door.

Show Planned At Benet Hill

Benet Hill Academy will sponsor its 16th Annual Dad-Daughter Musical Review, Thursday, March 20, through Sunday, March 23, at 7:45 p.m. at the Academy auditorium, 2577 N. Chelton Road.

Entitled "Images," the production musically portrays cowboys, gangsters, and kings among many other standard favorite characters from film and stage.

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